



Programmed After-school Recreation for Kids!

DECEMBER 2021

RECREATION SUPERVISOR NEWSLETTER

Reminders

- Monday, Dec. 20 - Sunday, Jan. 2: Winter Break; no school or P.A.R.K.

Please Review and Update

This is a good time of the year to review your parent handbook and the policies of our program. Please also update any information listed on your child's emergency medical form.

Inclement Weather Days

Remember winter weather can close schools for the day. Please make sure you have other arrangements for childcare on snow days. P.A.R.K. does not operate on inclement weather days when SWCSD closes or releases early.

Cold Weather Gear

If the weather remains above 20 degrees including the wind chill factor, we will take the children outdoors for large-muscle activity after school each day. Please be sure your child dresses in layers, and wears a winter coat, gloves, boots and hat as needed each day for weather conditions.

Eight Things Kids Need to Thrive

-Harley Rotbart, MD Colorado Children's Hospital

- 1. Security**
Kids must feel safe and sound with their basic survival needs met: shelter, food, clothing, medical care and protection from harm.
- 2. Stability**
Stability comes from family and community. Ideally, a family remains together in a stable household, but when that's not possible, it's important to disrupt the child's life as little as possible. Kids and families should be a part of larger units to give them a sense of belonging, tradition and cultural continuity.
- 3. Consistency**
No "good cop, bad cop." Parents should synchronize their parenting and make sure important values stay consistent.
- 4. Emotional support**
Parents' words and actions should encourage kids' trust, respect, self-esteem and ultimately independence.
- 5. Love**
Saying and showing you love your kids can overcome almost any parenting "mistakes" you make. Even if your kids disobey, anger, frustrate and rebel against you, show them you love them and that you'll always love them.
- 6. Education**
Make sure your kids get the best possible education for their future. This includes school, of course, but it also includes the invaluable life lessons you provide during the time you spend together.
- 7. Positive Role Models**
Parents are their kids' first and most important role models. Instill your values and teach children empathy by being the kind of person you want them to become.
- 8. Structure**
Rules, boundaries, and limits: Without them, kids are forced to be adults before they are ready, and they lose respect for you and other adults.



The City of Grove City • Parks and Recreation Department
P.A.R.K. Recreation Supervisors: Megan Williams and Amanda Gehres

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FUN SNOW DAY ACTIVITIES FOR KIDS

#2



BUILD A LIVING ROOM CAMPSITE

Turn out the lights, wear PJs, bust out the sleeping bags. If you don't have a tent, build a fort using blankets, couch cushions and pillows. Hide chocolate bar, graham crackers and marshmallows in the pantry for snow days. s'mores.

#4



MAKE MAGAZINE MOSAICS

Have kids cut out different colors from the pages into small squares. Next, sketch a design on a paper plate. Then use glue and a paint brush to make a colorful mosaic.

#1

CREATE SNOW ART

Bring some color into the outdoor fun. Filling empty spray bottles with food coloring and water, then letting the kids unleash their inner winter wonderland artist! Kids can design rainbows, flowers or self-portraits or even add color to snowmen.



#3

SCHEDULE A PLAY DATE

At the beginning of each school year, make a snow day roster with neighbors who want to participate. Make rotating shifts throughout the day, allowing each parent a little peace and quiet to catch up on their own tasks as well.

#5

BAKE, BAKE, BAKE

If it's too cold to enjoy the snow outside, bring the fun into the kitchen. Make some yummy treats that everyone will enjoy.





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BUCKEYE WOODS NEWSLETTER

December Fun

Well, 2021 has been a very interesting year, but we made it through. But that's not to say we are done yet! We still have lots of stuff planned for December, so we're going out with a bang!

- Mr. Andrew will have a snowball fight inside!
- Ms. Mackenzie is making bead candy canes to hang on the tree.
- Ms. Jessica is making elves and snowmen!
- We will make gifts the children can give to that special person in their life.
- We will also have a Christmas party on our last day before winter break, Friday, Dec. 17, when we will play games, make crafts, ice cookies and drink hot chocolate!

Ways to Teach Children the Spirit of Giving

1. Encourage them to give compliments.
2. Make coupons for chores and give to neighbors.
3. Help them give their lightly used toys to charity.
4. Make pet toys for animal shelters.
5. Make a care kit of personal hygiene products for homeless people.

Events in December

- Dec. 4 | National Cookie Day
- Dec. 8 | Stuff a Truck Day at the Columbus Zoo and Aquarium: Free admission to the with a six-item non-perishable food donation per person
- Dec. 13 | National Ice Cream Day
- Dec. 18 | National Answer the Telephone Like Buddy the Elf
- Dec. 25 | Christmas
- Dec. 28 | Call a Friend Day
- Nov. 20 - Jan. 3 | Wildlights at the Columbus Zoo and Aquarium
- Nov. 20 - Jan. 3 | Butch Bando's Fantasy of Lights at Alum Creek State Park Campgrounds
- Nov. 27-March 12 | LEGO Exhibition at Columbus Museum of Art. Admission is free on Sundays.

Kids' Korner

Kids were asked what type of cookie they liked best: chocolate chip, M&M or peanut butter.

- Arnasha Watkins: chocolate chip cookies
- Savannah Dean: chocolate chip cookies
- Elin Lenix: M&M cookies
- Reagan Snider: chocolate chip cookies
- Paxton Barker: chocolate chip cookies
- Connor Kozel: chocolate chip cookies
- Carter Kozel: M&M cookies

So it looks like chocolate chip wins! I hear chocolate chip is Santa's favorite cookie as well.

December Recipe Corner: Fantasy Fudge

Is one of your family's favorite confections for Christmas fudge? Do you have trouble making fudge - getting it set instead of making a pan full of sugary mess? Try this recipe!

This fail-proof recipe will have you making several batches to give as gifts!

Ingredients:

- 3 cups sugar
- ¾ cup of margarine
- ⅔ cup or 5-ounce can evaporated milk
- 7 ounces marshmallow creme
- 12-ounce bag semi-sweet chocolate chips or 1 cup peanut butter
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 1 cup walnuts (optional)

Directions:

1. Grease a 9"x13" pan
2. Mix sugar, margarine and evaporated milk in a heavy saucepan. Bring to a full boil for 5 minutes.
3. Remove from heat, stir in chocolate chips and mix until melted and combined. If you prefer peanut butter fudge, use cup of peanut butter instead of chocolate chips.
4. Beat in marshmallow creme, vanilla and walnuts.
5. Transfer to prepared pan and let cool before cutting.



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For absences, call
614-519-4664

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
		1 • Dr. Dodgeball • Scarecrows • Snake Wall, Fire Wall	2 • Tornado Tag • Fox • Escape Ball	3 • Free Gym • Makeup Craft • Freeze Dance
6 • Red Alert • Paper Plate Ornament • Colorful Hoops	7 • Sharks & Minnows • Paper Plate Reindeer • Line Tag	8 • Guard Santa's Castle • Paper Plate Grinch • Snake Wall, Fire Wall	9 • Team Ball • Pony Bead Candy Canes • Escape Ball	10 • Freeze Dance • Make Christmas Gifts
13 • Rock, Paper, Scissors • Handprint Reindeer • Line Tag	14 • Poop Deck • Popsicle Stick Trees • Line Tag	15 • Snowball Fights • Elves • Snake Wall, Fire Wall P.A.R.K. PAYMENT DUE	16 • Toilet Tag • Snowmen • Escape Ball	17 • CHRISTMAS PARTY!
20 NO SCHOOL OR P.A.R.K.	21 NO SCHOOL OR P.A.R.K.	22 NO SCHOOL OR P.A.R.K.	23 NO SCHOOL OR P.A.R.K.	24 NO SCHOOL OR P.A.R.K.
27 NO SCHOOL OR P.A.R.K.	28 NO SCHOOL OR P.A.R.K.	29 NO SCHOOL OR P.A.R.K.	30 NO SCHOOL OR P.A.R.K.	NO SCHOOL OR P.A.R.K.